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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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767 High School Seniors Awarded Full Four-Year Scholarships and Admission to Top Colleges through QuestBridge

Palo Alto, California (December 1, 2016) – QuestBridge proudly announces the results of the 2016 National College Match (“College Match”), a national program that pairs high-achieving, low-income high school seniors with full scholarships to the nation’s top colleges. After receiving a record-high of 14,491 applications, from which QuestBridge chose 5,338 as Finalists, 767 exceptional students have been selected as this year’s College Match Scholarship Recipients. This represents an all-time high for QuestBridge, with a 17% increase in College Matches compared to last year’s high of 657.

Students selected for the College Match are “matched” to one of QuestBridge’s 38 college partners—admitted with a guaranteed full, four-year scholarship, including tuition, room and board, and other expenses. QuestBridge’s college partners include top liberal arts colleges such as Amherst, Colby, Pomona, and Williams and research universities such as Brown, Columbia, Duke, Stanford, and Yale.

Since 2003, the QuestBridge College Match has successfully connected over 4,000 students with full scholarships to college partners. These prestigious scholarships are generously provided to recipients by the colleges. Many more students are admitted later in the year through QuestBridge Regular Decision and all Finalists who ultimately matriculate to a QuestBridge college partner become QuestBridge Scholars. The QuestBridge Scholars Network now includes over 10,000 current students and alumni nationally.

“Our college partners are so committed to providing access to a high quality education,” said Ana McCullough, Co-Founder and CEO of QuestBridge. “The increase in College Matches this year really indicates their willingness to identify and educate the best students, regardless of their financial background.”



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Reflective of the rigorous standards of the College Match, the caliber of this year's College Matches is top-notch. In addition to an average unweighted GPA of 3.91, the middle 50% have received between 1885-2150 on the old SAT (out of 2400), between 1320-1460 on the new SAT (out of 1600), and between 29-33 on the ACT (out of 36). 92% rank in the top 10% of their class. Financially, their median household income is \$32,218, and 81% qualify for free or reduced-price lunch. The majority of these new QuestBridge Scholars—73%—are also among the first generation in their families to attend a four-year U.S. college.

About QuestBridge:

QuestBridge, a national non-profit based in Palo Alto, California, connects the nation's most exceptional, low-income youth with leading institutions of higher education and further life opportunities. By recruiting, developing, and motivating these students— beginning in high school through college to their first job—QuestBridge aims to increase the percentage of talented low-income students attending the nations' best colleges and to support them to achieve success in their respective careers and communities.

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